Message Text

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ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 EA-06 NSCE-00 SP-02 INR-05

CIAE-00 L-01 EB-03 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00

USIE-00 /044 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6281

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

USMISSION NATO

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, OECD, UN, XT

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL DIPLOMACY--IMPROVING CONSULTATIONS

WITH EC-9 AND OECD

REF: (A) STATE 045535; (B) USUN '75 6973 (NOTAL); (C) USUN 134 (NOTAL)

1. USUN AGREES WITH PROPOSALS IN PARAS 2(A), (B), (C), (D) OF REFTEL (A) REGARDING CONSULTATIONS WITH EC-9.

2. RE PROPOSAL IN PARA 2(D) OF REFTEL (A) REGARDING CONSULTATION WITH EC-9 IN NEW YORK, USUN HAS BEEN REGULARLY IN TOUCH WITH MISSION EXERCISING ROLE OF EC-9 PRESIDENCY AS WELL AS OTHER KEY EC-9 DELEGATIONS ON ECONOMIC MATTERS. ADDITIONALLY, WE HAVE HAD OCCASION TO TAKE UP SELECTED ECONOMIC QUESTIONS WITH EC-9 COMMISSION PERSONNEL STATIONED IN NEW YORK. THESE LATTER CONTACTS ARE LIKELY TO INCREASE DUE TO GROWING SOLIDARITY OF EC-9 COUNTRIES IN ECONOMIC FORUMS, AND FACT THAT ON OCCASION EC-9 MISSIONS IN NEW YORK HAVE USED A COMMISSION MEMBER AS SPOKESMAN FOR THEIR GROUP. COMMISSION'S STAFF IS BEING STRENGTHENED, AND THIS USE OF COMMISSION MEMBERS AS EC-9 SPOKESMEN MAY INCREASE. WE WILL KEEP USEC BRUSSELS APPRISED OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS PARTICULAR AREA.

3. IN CONNECTION WITH US-EC-9 CONSULTATION ON ECONOMIC QUESTIONS IN THE UN CONTEXT, THERE IS A PARADOX INVOLVED IN THE REALITY THAT, WHILE THE US HAS TENDED TO TAKE A HARDER LINE WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, IT ALSO HAS BEEN THE MOST ACTIVE WESTERN COUNTRY IN INITIATING ECONOMIC PROPOSALS AT THE UN. ADDITIONALLY, SIGNIFICANT USG ECONOMIC INITIATIVES OFTEN HAVE SURFACED AT LAST MINUTE AND THIS HAS COMPLICATED US/EC-9 CONSULTATIONS. HOWEVER, WE UNDERLINE THAT SOME DEGREE OF SOLIDARITY OF WESTERN POSITIONS, PARTICULARLY US-EC-9, IS MANDATORY FOR PROTECTION OF US INTERESTS. IT BEHOOVES US, THEREFORE, TO BRING SUBSTANTIVE ITEMS INTO THIS CONSULTATION. THIS IS ALL THE MORE IMPORTANT IF WE ARE TO ENCOURAGE MORE STRUCTURED FORUMS FOR CONSULTATION AND WE WANT THESE FORUMS CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTIVE AND HELPFUL.

- 4. RE PARA 3 OF REFTEL (A) REGARDING INCREASED OECD INVOLVEMENT IN NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES WHICH ARE ALSO TREATED IN UN STRUCTURE, USUN WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP US MISSION TO OECD INFORMED ON MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST.
- 5. RE PARA 4 OF REFTEL (A), USUN HAS CONSULTED WITH UK AND

FRENCH MISSIONS REGARDING ACTIVATION OF WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHERS GROUP (WEOG) WORKING-LEVEL CAUSUSES FOR COMMITTEE 3 (SOCIAL, HUMANITARIAN AND CULTURAL) AND COMMITTEE 4 (DECOLONIZATION) MATTERS. NEITHER FAVORS "RITUALIZATION" OF WEOG CAUCUSES FOR THESE COMMITTEES. BRITISH IN PARTICULAR WANT TO MAINTAIN "FLEXIBILITY" IN THIS REGARD CALLING TOGETHER ON AD HOC BASIS WEO CORE GROUPS WHICH CAN BE ENLARGED AS SITUATIONS REQUIRE. USUN CONSIDERS THIS TO BE A PRACTICAL APPROACH WHICH WOULD ENABLE EXCLUSION OF UNRELIABLES SUCH AS MALTA IN SITUATIONS WHERE THIS IS INDICATED.

6. AN IMPORTANT FORUM FOR CONSIDERATION OF ELECTION SLATES AND, ON INFREQUENT OCCASION, FOR OTHER MATTERS IMPINGING ON MORE SUBSTANTIVE QUESTIONS IS THE AMBASSADORIAL-LEVEL WEOG CAUCUS (REFTELS (B) AND (C)). USUN HAS ATTENDED THESE AMBASSADORIAL-LEVEL MEETINGS FOR SOME 18 MONTHS. OUR STATUS AT THESE AMBASSADORIAL-LEVEL MEETINGS IS AS AN OBSERVER, RATHER THAN AS MEMBER, BUT WE SPEAK FREELY AND OFTEN AT THEM. OTHER OBSERVERS ATTENDING THESE AMBASSADORIAL-LEVEL MEETINGS ARE SWIT-ZERLAND, MONACO, THE VATICAN, AND FROM TIME TO TIME JAPAN. AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME AS WE BEGAN OUR PARTICIPATION IN AMBASSADORIAL-LEVEL WEOG MEETINGS, THE COMMITTEE 2 (ECONO-MIC AND FINANCIAL) WORKING-LEVEL WEOG CAUCUS FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES CEASED TO MEET. TO BRIDGE THIS GAP, USUN HAS FROM TIME TO TIME CALLED TOGETHER WEOG CORE GROUPS TO DEAL WITH SUBSTANTIVE ECONOMIC ITEMS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO US. THUS, COMMITTEE 2 CAUCUS HAS OVER PAST YEAR BECOME IN FACT THE SORT OF GROUP WHICH UK AND FRENCH MISSIONS FAVOR FOR COMMITTEES 3 AND 4, AS REPORTED ABOVE.

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7. WEOG HAS REGULAR FORMAL AND INFORMAL WORKING-LEVEL COMMITTEE 5 (ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY) MEETINGS, ESPECIALLY DURING UNGA. HOWEVER, EC-9 AT LAST FALL'S 30TH UNGA CAUCUSED FOR FIRST TIME ON COMMITTEE 5 MATTERS AND ESTABLISHED REGULAR DISCUSSIONS LIMITED TO EC-9. THIS HAS COMPLICATED WORKING OF COMMITTEE 5 WORKING-LEVEL WEOG CAUCUS AS WELL AS US/WEO/EC-9 RELATIONS, ALTHOUGH NOT TO DEGREE AS YET OF COMPROMISING TRADITIONAL WEO CONSULTATIONS IN COMMITTEE 5.

8. COOPERATION WITH WEO COUNTRIES IN COMMITTEE 6 (LEGAL) IS ACTIVE AND PERSISTENT. THE WEOG WORKING-LEVEL COMMITTEE 6 CAUCUS IS CHAIRED BY THE US, UK AND FRANCE ON AN ALTERNATING THREE-YEAR SCHEDULE. EXCHANGES WITHIN THE GROUP ARE UNINHIBITED AND HELPFUL TO US OBJECTIVES AT THE UN EVEN WHEN DIFFERENCES ON MATTERS OF SUBSTANCE NOT INFREQUENTLY ARISE.

9. RE PARA 5(A) OF REFTEL (A), VINCE GROUP ATTENDANCE IS NORMALLY AT PERMREP LEVEL (PARA 3, REFTEL (B)). VINCI GROUP CONSULTATIONS WHICH ARE LARGELY ON COMMITTEE 1 (POLITICAL AND SECURITY) MATTERS, ARE SUPPLEMENTED YEAR-ROUND BY NORMAL ONGOING EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AMONG LIKE-MINDED WEOG AMBASSADORS.

10. RE PARA 5(B) OF REFTEL (A), CANADA, WHICH WITH ITALY IS CO-CHAIRMAN OF VINCI GROUP, IS SEIZED WITH "TROJAN HORSE" ASPECTS OF MALTA'S MEMBERSHIP IN VINCI GROUP. CANADIAN MISSION POINTS OUT THAT, SINCE MALTA REPORTEDLY WAS RECENTLY ADMITTED TO GROUP OF 77 AS MEMBER ASIAN GROUP, IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO PERSUADE MALTA TO GIVE UP VINCE GROUP ATTENDANCE. UK MISSION CONCURS IN DESIRABILITY OF ENCOURAGING MALTA'S NON-ATTENDANCE AND, PENDING OUR VIEWS, SUGGESTS ASKING CANADA'S AMBASSADOR RAE TO CALL TOGETHER CORE GROUP OF VINCE MENBERS (E.G. US, UK, FRG, CANADA AND NETHERLANDS) TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITY OF DISCOURAGING MALTA'S ATTENDANCE FOR TIME BEING AT LEAST. CANADIANS SUGGEST THAT WEOG MIGHT TRADE SUPPORT FOR MALTA'S 1976 CANDIDACY FOR ECOSOC IN RETURN FOR MALTA'S NON-ATTENDANCE AT VINCE GROUP MEETINGS. CONFIDENTIAL

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WE NOTE THAT SENSITIVITIES OF OTHERS SUCH AS ITALY AND SPAIN WILL NEED TO BE BORNE IN MIND IN DECIDING ACTION IN THIS REGARD. WE BELIEVE IT DESIRABLE FOR USUN TO AVOID BEING OUT IN FRONT ALONE ON MATTERS OF MALTA'S ATTENDANCE AT VINCI GROUP MEETINGS. WE NOTE TOO THAT VINCI GROUP MEMBER JAPAN IS ASIAN AND THAT REMOVAL OF MALTA ON GROUNDS IT ADMITTED TO 77 AS MEMBER ASIAN GROUP COULD BE COMPLICATED BY THIS. BENNETT

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